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Evaluation of the Built Environment on Ice: Polar Field Tent Shelters and Well-Being of their Users [Abstract]

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extremely harsh environment, and to help alleviate the adverse impact of the unusual social conditions on their users. Based on data of a survey of nearly one hundred U.S. polar researchers and their support personnel, this presentation reports on a study of various field tent shelters used in polar and circumpolar areas. The study focused on the design of the shelters and the implication for health and well-being of users from an environment-behavior perspective. Preliminary analysis indicates that while design of field tent shelters was generally satisfactory, there does exist quite a few areas in which the design and use of the shelters had an adverse bearing on the health and well-being of a considerable number of shelter users. Some suggestions to be used for establishing performance criteria in the future design and manufacture of the tent shelters will also be discussed.